Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—Certainly. The rules already provide for the filing of election petitions in such cases.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH.—Are not shanbhogs and patels considered as Government servants?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—Yes.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—Are shanbhogs and patels compelled to vote for particular candidates?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—No.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO. If the local officers are not in favour of Congress candidates, does it not show that Government want to put down the Congress?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—I am not prepared to answer that question.

Mr. K. LAKSHMINARAYANA RAO.—The Congress has been recognised as a political party in the country. The present question before this House contains an innuendo and insinuations against the Congress and the hon. member who raised it has not chosen to mention any particular officials who are alleged to have canvassed support for Congress candidates . . . . .

Mr. PRESIDENT.—He is not bound to mention names.

Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA.—Without the village officers having a hand nothing important can take place in the villages. And elections to public bodies are a matter of the greatest importance to us. Therefore, will it not be helpful if Government give wide publicity to their views on this question for the information of village officers as well as of the general public?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—The suggestion will be considered.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—Can shanbhogs and patels stand for election on the Congress ticket?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—No.

Mr. VEERE GOWDA.—What about the shanbhogs and the patels who have got themselves returned on the Congress ticket in connection with the recent District Board elections?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—The question will be examined.

Mr. K. C. SUBBANNA.—In view of the fact that the Congress is carrying on agitation of a subversive nature, should not Government refuse to recognize candidates returned on the Congress ticket?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—That question will have to be examined as already stated, now that it has come up. But it is well-known that Government servants cannot belong to any political party. If therefore patels and shanbhogs have been returned as Congress candidates, they must resign either their membership of the political party in question or their village offices.

Opening a Railway Station between Closepet and Bidadi.

Q.—7. Messrs. S. L. MUDDUBASAVIAH and M. B. GURULINGIAH (Closepet Taluk) and Mr. A. M. VENKATASWAMIAH (Closepet Municipality).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether the prayer for the construction of a regular railway station between Closepet and Bidadi has come to their notice;

(*b*) if an estimate has been prepared in this behalf;

(*c*) whether any arrangements have been made for carrying it out this year?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT for RAILWAYS (Rajasevaprasaktha B. T. Kesavaiengar).—

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No. The work will be taken up in its turn after the Nagenhalli crossing station is completed.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—May I know why an estimate has not yet been prepared?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR—There is no object in preparing an estimate for a work which is not likely to be taken up in the near future.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—Has an estimate been prepared for the construction of the Nagenhalli crossing station at least?

The GENERAL MANAGER, MYSORE STATE RAILWAY (Mr. Y. K. Ramachandra Rau).—Yes. The work will be done next year.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—Is it not desirable to take up Kethohalli crossing station soon for the convenience of the people ?

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU.—The convenience of the public has been already provided for as shuttle trains are stopping at Kethohalli. Nagenhalli crossing station is more urgent.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—Is not a regular station necessary there? When will Kethohalli get its turn ?

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU.—After Nagenhalli.

Mr. M. B GURULINGIAH—On whose initiative was the question of these two stations taken up for consideration ?

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU.—I cannot say that. I can only say that the question has been under the consideration of the department for the past 10 years.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—What will be the cost roughly of constructing a station at Kethohalli ?

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU.—Not less than Rs. 50,000.

Mr. M. B. GURULINGIAH.—What will be the revenue from the station when constructed ?

Mr. Y. K. RAMACHANDRA RAU.—It is too early to say that. A crossing station will help traffic working during busy periods.

Distribution of Petrol Tax.

Q.—9. Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA (Bowringpet Taluk).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the share of petrol cess that is being paid to the Government of Mysore by the Government of India ;

(*b*) the towns among which this cess has been distributed ;

(*c*) the number of towns containing petrol bunks in the Mysore State ;

(*d*) whether this cess has been distributed for the improvement of such towns ; if so, in what proportion (year-war statement for three years may kindly be furnished)?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. H. V. Narayana Rao).—

(*a*)—

Year		Rs.
1937-38	...	3,71,022
1938-39	...	3,82,648
1939-40	...	3,82,759

(*b*) The amount of cess is, after realisation, credited to Road Fund and no part of it is ear-marked for distribution among towns. The town municipalities which were levying vehicle tax on motor vehicles at the time when the Mysore Road Traffic and Taxes Act came into force are now getting an annuity from the Road Fund by way of compensation for loss of vehicle tax based on the average realisations of three years preceding 30th June 1935.

(*c*) 23.

(*d*) *Vide* reply to clause (*b*) above. Road Fund is not meant to be used for improvement of towns.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—What part of the petrol tax revenue derived from sales in Mysore is distributed to Mysore Government ?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—Is not the whole of the amount paid as the State's share of petrol tax revenue contributed by the State's people ?

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravjna N. Madhava Rau).—You may say so.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—Out of the 23 towns referred to in answer to (*c*), in how many places have waiting rooms been constructed for bus passengers ?

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU.—Notice

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—May I at least know in how many places waiting rooms have yet to be provided? Is it necessary to provide them urgently in Chintamani, Bowringpet and other places ?

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU.—In some places, the municipalities themselves have taken up the construction of waiting rooms, and in other places Government have sanctioned grants for the purpose. We cannot provide waiting sheds in all places at one and the same time.